ZERO GAME

by JEULBAHSEN

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ROX

FIRST IN BATTLE, FIRE AND BLOOD. WINTER IS COMING.
GAME OF SCANLATION
RECRUITING KOREAN T. ANSLATE. S. EMAIL US AT GAMEOFSCANLATION@GMAIL.COM
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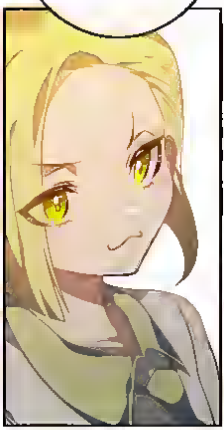
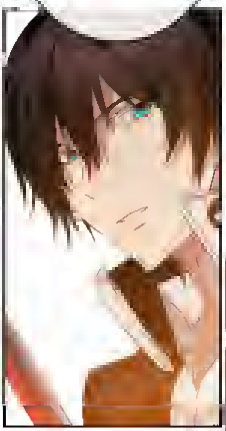
SFX: Step
EXCUSE ME, MR. X
IT'S DECEMBER 12TH. HERE ARE THE MONTHLY REPORTS FOR THE TOP 5 PLAYERS IN THE STARTING PHASE.
LEVEL 3 NPC
LITA

OH REALLY. I'VE BEEN WAITING.
THE CURRENT RANKING IS BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF LIFE ACQUIRED.

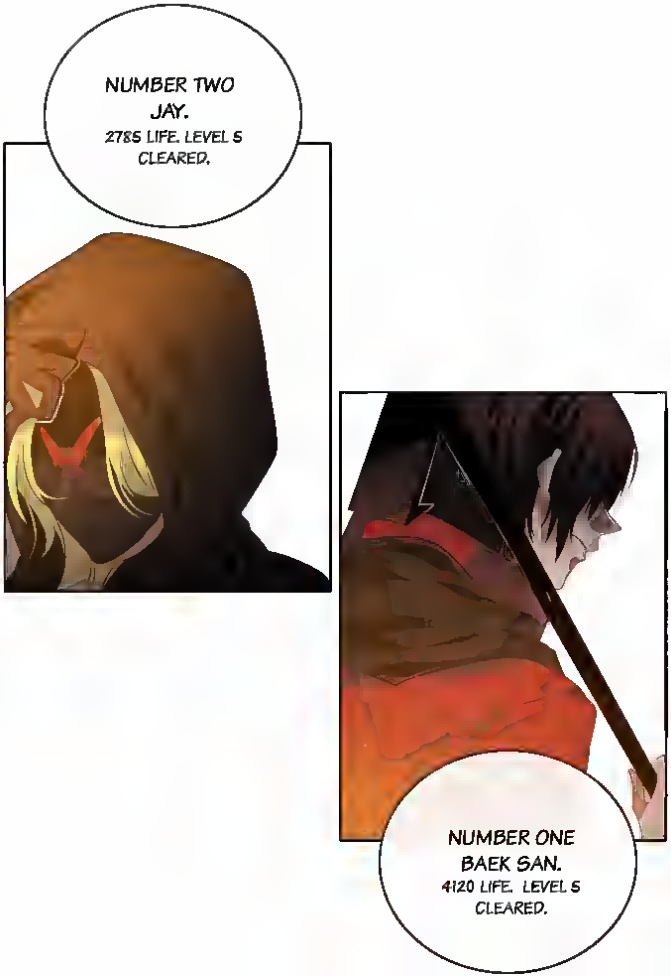
NUMBER FIVE
JOO PARAN.
1356 LIFE.
LEVEL 1 CLEARED.



NUMBER FOUR
BAEK SHIN WOO.
1782 LIFE.
LEVEL 3 CLEARED.



NUMBER THREE
LOVE ME.
2132 LIFE.
NO INFO AVAILABLE.


NUMBER TWO
JAY.
2785 LIFE. LEVEL 5
CLEARED.
NUMBER ONE
BAEK SAN.
4120 LIFE. LEVEL 5
CLEARED.

MY, MY. IT'S BEEN THE SAME REPORT FOR SIX MONTHS NOW

SHOULD I SLOWLY SETTLE ON THIS RANKING?

THAT WAS THE RANKING.

FOR THE AFTERNOON LATER, I BELIEVE THE RANKING WILL CHANGE.

HOHO.

Zero game
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ZERO GAME

ON THE WAY TO THE HALFWAY POINT

A COLLAPSED CATHOLIC CHURCH

WE SHOULD GET THERE IN ABOUT 30 MORE MINUTES.

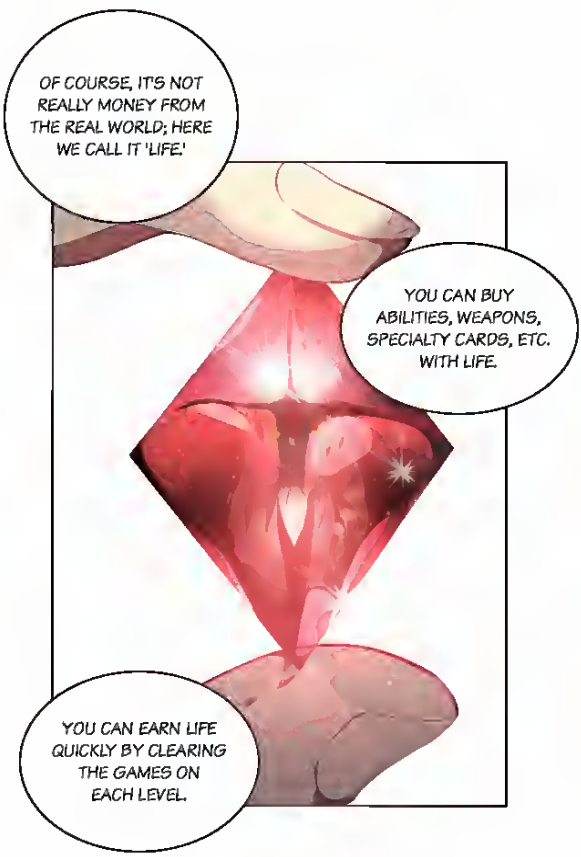
I SEE...

SFX: Step

SO, DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? I'LL ANSWER THEM.
CAN I... ASK YOU HOW TO USE THAT LIGHTNING THING?

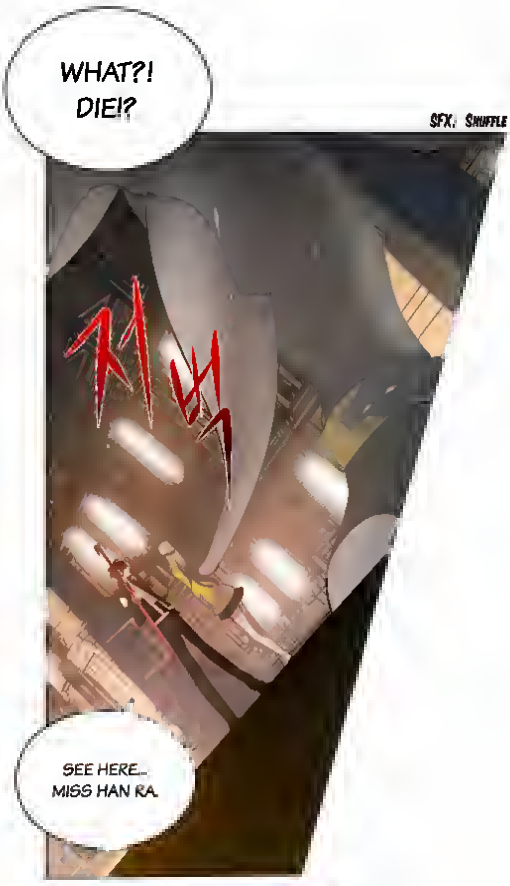
HMM, HOW CAN I EXPLAIN THIS SO IT WILL BE EASY TO UNDERSTAND?

OKAY. IF WE USE THE REAL WORLD AS AN EXAMPLE, YOU HAVE TO BUY IT WITH MONEY.
SFX: SHING

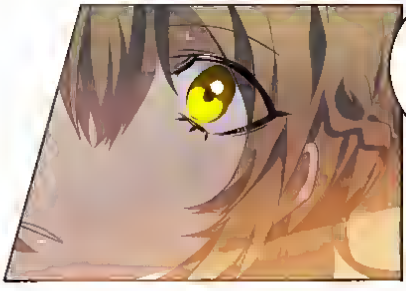

OF COURSE, IT'S NOT REALLY MONEY FROM THE REAL WORLD; HERE WE CALL IT 'LIFE.'
YOU CAN BUY ABILITIES, WEAPONS, SPECIALTY CARDS, ETC. WITH LIFE.
YOU CAN EARN LIFE QUICKLY BY CLEARING THE GAMES ON EACH LEVEL.

NPC..?
WHAT IS A GAME CLEAR..?
MISS HAN RA, WHEN YOU CAME HERE, DID YOU RECEIVE A WEIRD E-MAIL AND CARD AS WELL?
JUST LIKE THE CARD SAID, WE WILL PROGRESS THROUGH A GAME.
THE GAME IS PLAYED BY LEVELS. AND THE PEOPLE WHO SET THE GAMES TASKS ARE THE NPCS
IN THE END, ONLY ONE PERSON WHO HAS CLEARED ALL THE GAMES WILL MEET THE HOST
AND THE GAME ENDS WHEN THEY TELL HIM HOW THEY WILL RECONSTRUCT THEIR LIFE.

THEN WHAT HAPPENS TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO COULDN'T CLEAR THE GAME?
THEY'LL PROBABLY DIE.

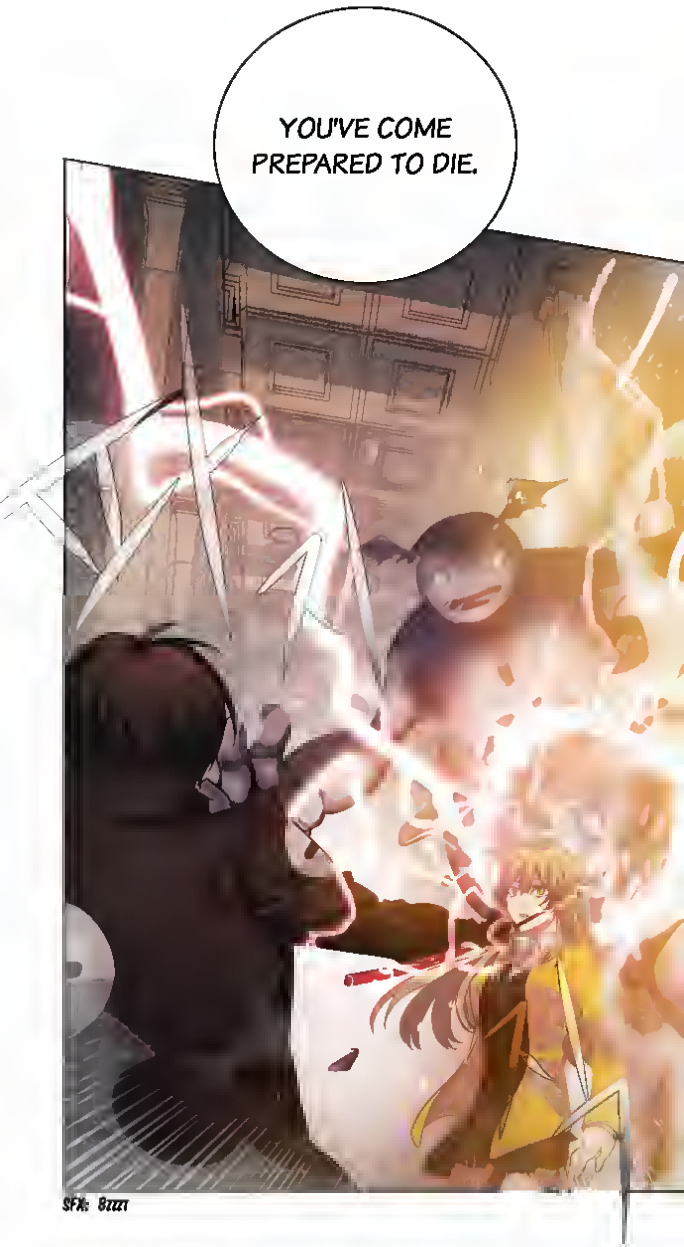

WHAT?! DIE!?
SFX: SHUFFLE
SEE HERE... MISS HAN RA.

I THINK YOU'RE CONFUSED.

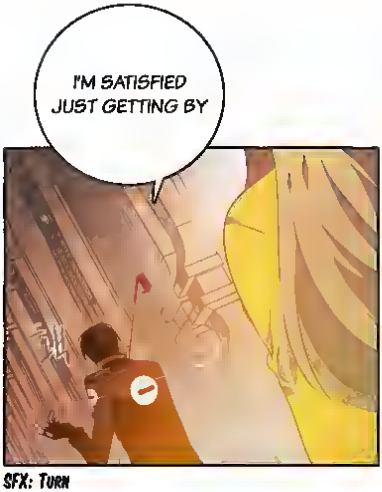


DID YOU NOT SEE THE SENTENCE ABOUT PUTTING YOUR LIFE UP AS COLLATERAL?

FROM THE MOMENT YOU RECEIVED THE LETTER AND ENTERED THIS PLACE


YOU'VE COME PREPARED TO DIE.
SFX: Bzzzt

AND IF I WERE TO GIVE YOU A TIP, I WOULD TELL YOU NOT TO TRUST ANYONE HERE.
SINCE IT'S COMMON TO BE BACK STABBED BY THE PERSON YOU TRUST THE MOST.
YOU SAY THAT, BUT THEN YOU'RE HELPING ME..?
SFX: 8ZZT
I NEVER WANTED TO WIN IN THE FIRST PLACE.
SFX: 8ZZT



SFX: TURN

OKAY, LET'S CONTINUE AND TRY GETTING TO NEUTRAL TERRITORY...

...THEN...

SFX: FALTER

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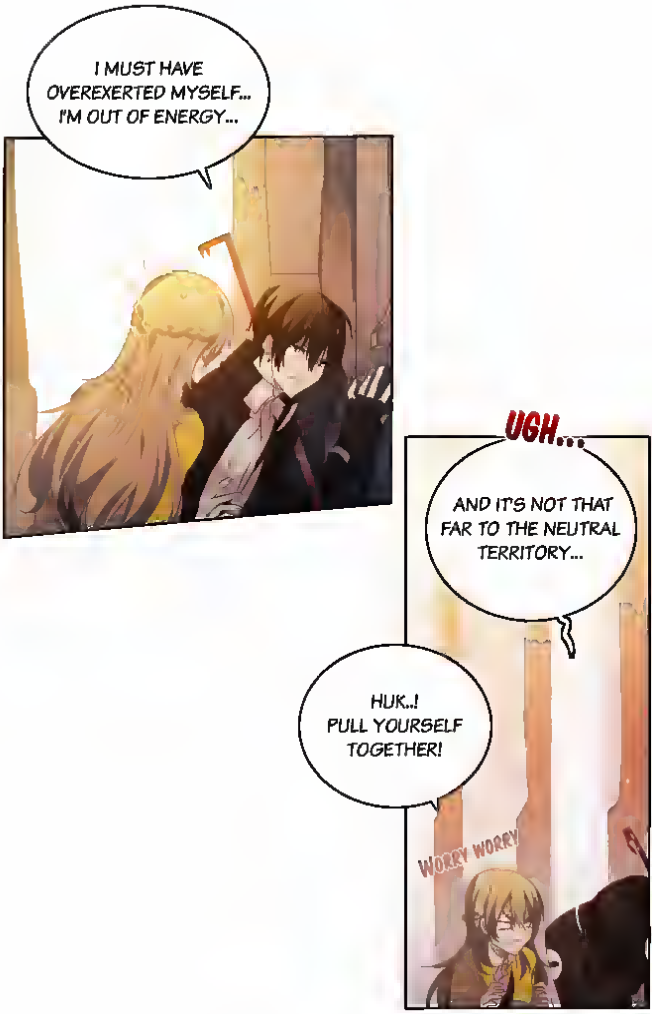
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
OH...CRAP...


I MUST HAVE OVEREXERTED MYSELF... I'M OUT OF ENERGY...
UGH...
AND IT'S NOT THAT FAR TO THE NEUTRAL TERRITORY...
HUK..! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!
WORRY WORRY

IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP?!

SFX: SMIRK

HMM. WELL...

THERE IS ONE WAY...

IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT PAIRING WITH ME?

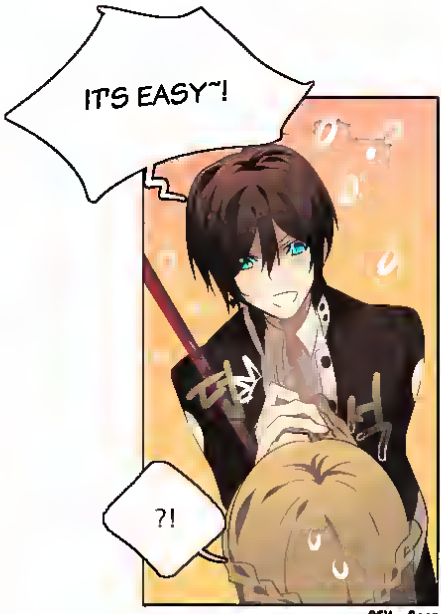
A..PAIR?

THAT'S RIGHT. IT IS ONE OF THE SYSTEMS IN THIS GAME, AND IT ALLOWS FOR US TO BECOME A TEAM.

IF WE BECOME A PAIR, WE CAN GIVE EACH OTHER STRENGTH AND KNOW THINGS, LIKE WHERE THE OTHER PERSON IS.
BEYOND THAT, WE CAN CLEAR THE GAME TOGETHER WHICH
I THINK IS MORE ADVANTAGEOUS THAN BEING ALONE.

OH WAIT.
I JUST SAID NOT TO TRUST ANYONE
I KNOW IT'S LAUGHABLE THAT I'M SAYING THIS BUT...

SINCE IT'S POSSIBLE TO SEVER THIS CONTRACT LATER, WOULD YOU MIND IF WE MADE A TEMPORARY PARTNERSHIP
AT LEAST UNTIL WE GET TO THE HALF-WAY POINT?
. . .!



SFX: GRAB

IF YOU JUST PUT YOUR THUMBPRINT RIGHT HERE, THE SYSTEM SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THE REST.
AFTER THAT, YOU CAN START HELPING ME.
THIS PERSON.

I WONDER IF IT'S BECAUSE HE IS GUIDING THE CONVERSATION SO NATURALLY.

I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING THAT HE'S A COHMAN.

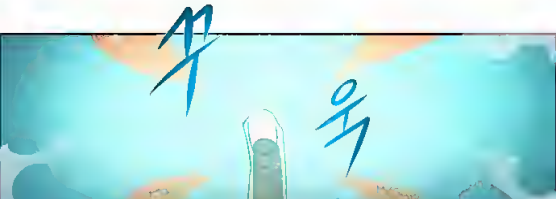
THOUGH I HAVE SOME CONCERNS

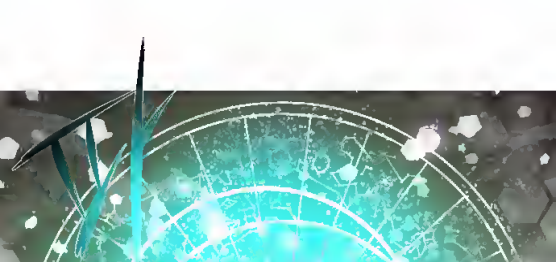
SINCE HE SAVED MY LIFE, I'LL TRY TRUSTING HIM.

JUST IN CASE, THOUGH IT SHOULD BE FINE SINCE I HAVE "THAT."

OKAY.
I'LL TRUST YOU
AND HELP
YOU.

YEAH...THANKS.


SFX. PRESS



NOW THE 'PAIR SYSTEM' IS ACTIVATED.

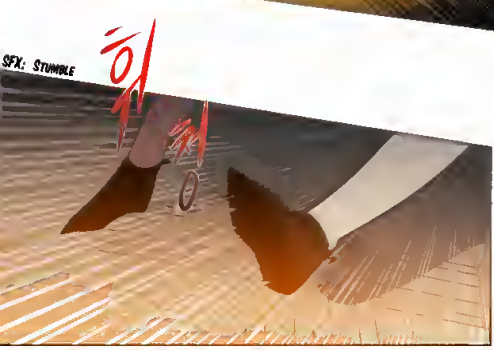
SFX: FLASH

DECEMBER 12TH 'PAIR COMPLETE'

OKAY MISS YOO HAN RA.

THANKS FOR YOUR WORK.

SFX: PUSH


SFX: STUMBLE

SFX: Bam

SFX: Bzzt

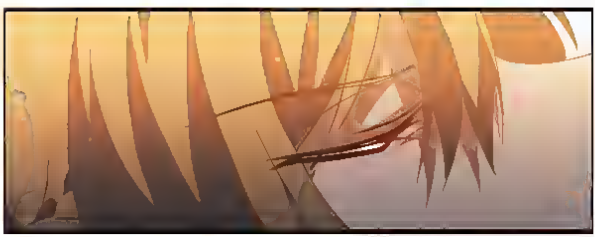
YOU JUST SAID YOU HAD NO STRENGTH SO YOU WANTED TO PAIR....
SFX: Bzzt
MAN YOU STUPID WOMAN.
I SAID IT TO YOUR FACE NOT TO TRUST ANYONE.
SHALL I SIMPLIFY IT SO AN IDIOT CAN UNDER STAND?

I JUST USED YOU.

USED....

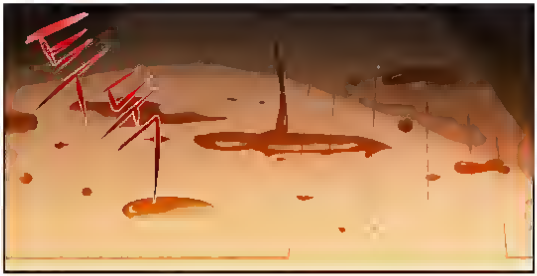
IN THE EVENT AN AMATEUR WHO HAS BEEN GIVEN NO LIFE DIES, THEIR LIFE GETS DISTRIBUTED EVENLY AMONG THE PLAYERS
BUT IF THEY DIE WHEN THEY ARE IN A PAIR, THEIR LIFE IS TRANSFERRED TO THEIR PARTNER.
COUNTLESS NEWBIES LIKE YOU GET CONNED AND DIE.
IT IS A SYSTEM THAT IS ADVANTAGEOUS TO EXISTING USERS THAT KNOW MORE THINGS.
SO DON'T RESENT ME.

WHY DO THESE
BAD PREDICTIONS



I'M SORRY, BUT GOODBYE.

SFX: Drip



I'M SORRY, BUT

I THINK
I SHOULD BE THE ONE SAYING BYE.

?!!

YOU SAID IT YOURSELF. I SHOULDN'T TRUST JUST ANYONE.
FALL -

DID YOU REALLY THINK I WOULD TRUST YOU AND NOT HAVE A BACKUP PLAN?

DID YOU...YOUR STARTING PASSIVE
YES. I'M SURE YOU'VE ALSO RECEIVED ONE WHEN YOU CAME HERE.

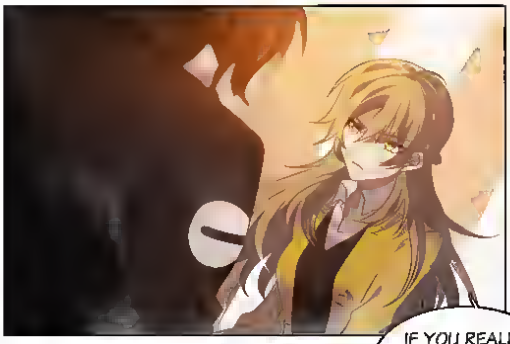
THE STARTING PASSIVE THAT I RECEIVED IS 'MIRRORING.'

IT'S THE ABILITY TO REFLECT AN OPPONENT'S ATTACK JUST ONCE IN A 24 HOUR TIME PERIOD.

SO.. MISS HAN RA, WHEN DID YOU START DOUBTING ME?

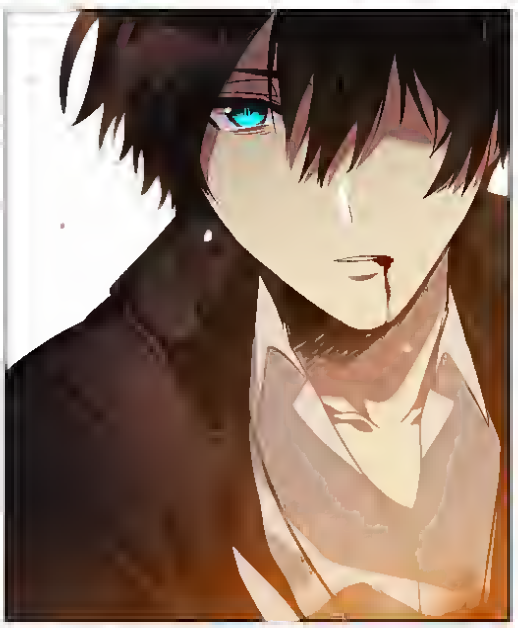
YOU SAID THAT YOU NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT WINNING?

BUT THEN YOU SAID THAT THOSE THAT DON'T WIN WILL PROBABLY DIE.



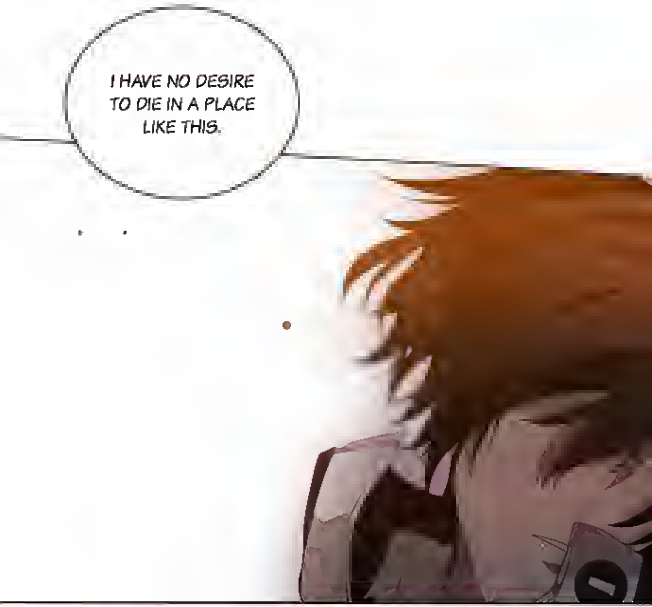
IF YOU REALLY HAD NO DESIRE TO WIN

THEN HOW ARE YOU STILL ALIVE?



...I SEE.

THANK YOU MR. BAEK SHIN WOO. I'VE REALIZED MANY THINGS THANK TO YOU.
SFX: GRIP

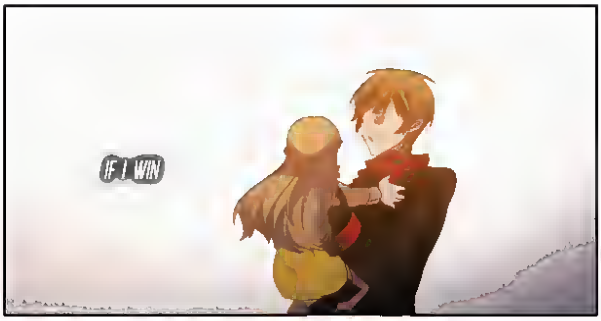

I HAVE NO DESIRE TO DIE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.

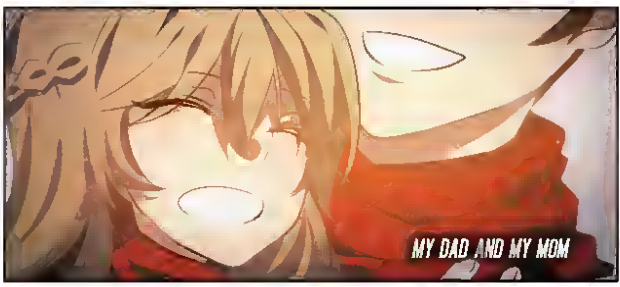
EVEN IF I HAVE TO KILL
THE PERSON WHO
SAVED MY LIFE,

I WILL SURVIVE
TO THE END.

ZERO.
THE NUMBER AT THE
BEGINNING AND THE END

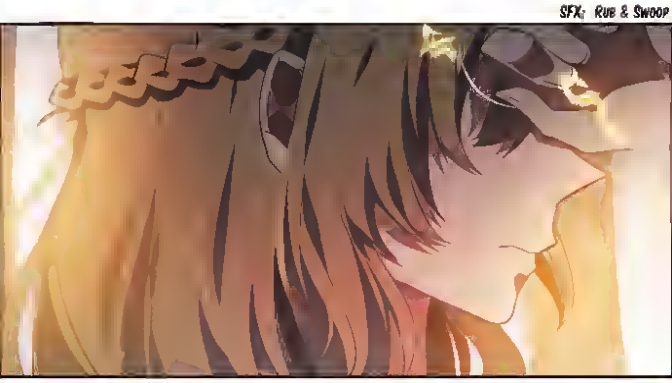
'LIFE RECONSTRUCTION'





IT PROBABLY MEANS I CAN RETURN EVERYTHING BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS.

SFX: Rub & Swoop



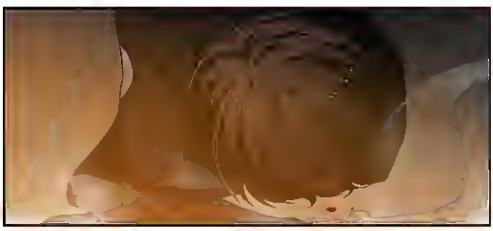
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO SURVIVE UNTIL THE VERY END.

SFX: SQUEEZE

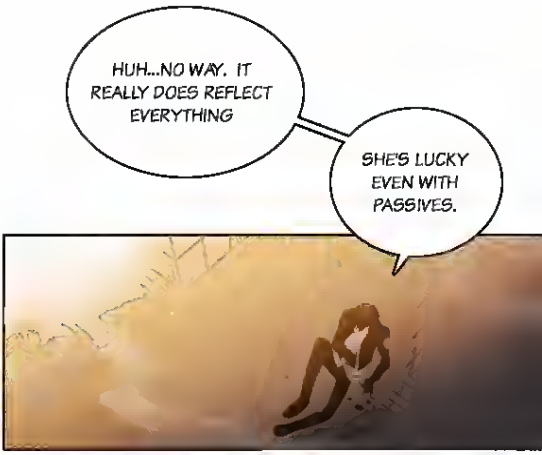
I WILL DEFINITELY

SFX: Flinch

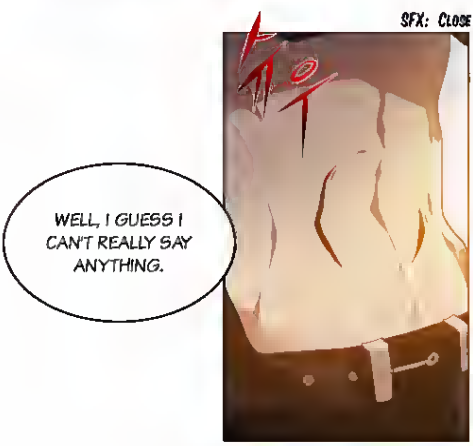
SFX: WHOOOOOO



SFX: SIT UP

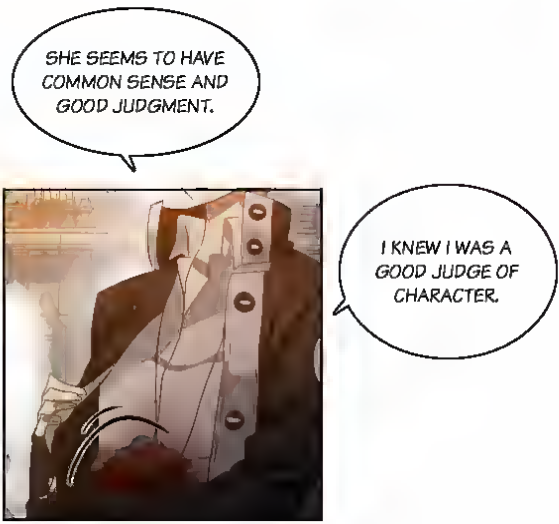

HUH...NO WAY. IT REALLY DOES REFLECT EVERYTHING
SHE'S LUCKY EVEN WITH PASSIVES.

I DID HEAR A RUMOR THAT THE USERS THAT RECENTLY JOINED GOT STRONGER PERKS.
BUT ISN'T MIRRORING A LITTLE TOO MUCH.


SFX: CLOSE
WELL, I GUESS I CAN'T REALLY SAY ANYTHING.

SFX: Dust dust

HMMM.. TO THINK THAT SHE WOULD TAKE A HIT AND USE MIRRORING TO KILL ME.
IT WAS A VERY GOOD IDEA. SHOULD I GIVE IT AN 80?


SHE SEEMS TO HAVE COMMON SENSE AND GOOD JUDGMENT.
I KNEW I WAS A GOOD JUDGE OF CHARACTER.

BUT IF THERE WAS ONE THING LACKING ABOUT HER..

SFX: Slip

IT WOULD ONLY BE THAT SHE LOSES IMPORTANT THINGS.

SFX: Doom

Yoo HanRa, your passive is 'Mirroring'
Effect Can only be used once every 24 hours
It will reflect an attack back on your opponent

SO THEN, FROM NOW

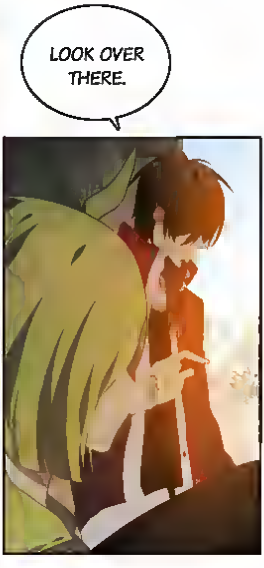
LET'S TRY AND BECOME A GOOD PAIR.

MISS YOO HANRA.

SFX: Chirp- x2

SFX: Step x2

PARAN.
YEAH?


LOOK OVER THERE.

BAEK SHINWOO...?
NO, NOT HIM.. WHO'S THAT GIRL..?
THIS...
I WONDER IF I WILL BE ABLE TO SEE MY LITTLE BROTHER'S FACE; IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

Zer0game

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[01] I Should Have Read the Contract Carefully.